

The SPOTLIGHT

The Voice of Black Womanhood

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Atlanta Georgia-Spelman College

March, 1981

Police Working Around The Clock To Solve Murdered And Missing Children's Cases

By Bridgett M. Davis
News Editor

The Atlanta Bureau of Police Services' Special Task Force on Missing and Murdered Children is devoting its full time to investigate the criminal homicides of twenty-one black children.

Many people justifiably believe that Atlanta's Special Task Force could be doing much more to solve the children's cases. After nearly two years of periodic kidnapping and murdering of Atlanta's youth, one instinctively believes that it is

suspects and therefore no end to this nightmare. However, many citizens do not realize that all available human and material resources are being pooled in an intensive effort to identify the person or persons responsible for the murders.

Since July 17, 1980, when the Special Task Force (STF) was created, the Bureau of Police Services has expanded the STF to sixty-three persons — including investigators, officers and civilian personnel. In addition to the Task Force, the Atlanta Police Dept. has solicited the help of: The FBA, U.S.

(including the top five from major U.S. cities); specialists in technical analysis of evidence and data; specialists in the

development of offender files; as well as several other qualified individuals and
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Students Dissatisfied With New Housing Policy

By Karen Burroughs
Sr. Reporter

Camping out all night and lines stretching out of the doors of Rockefeller Hall were just a few of the scenes associated with Spelman's former housing selection process. This year Spelman's Housing Department has established a system of selection by computer in hopes of providing a more fair system of housing for students.

The new system is quite simple. Seniors will be assigned rooms first, in the order of which they have been ranked by computer. Once seniors have been assigned, rising juniors and sophomores will be processed as a single group. There will be a limited number of rooms available to Atlanta area residents. In addition, no distinction will be made between classes for these students.

In former years, students stood in lines to pay their deposits, and receive a number which determined the order in which they would be processed. In addition, rising juniors and seniors were given "squatters rights," which allowed them to keep their rooms for the next year if they wished.

Even though the former process was tiring for students, created long lines, and had many sleeping outside in order to get a room, most Spelman students wish that the old system had not been changed. "In the old system, one was more sure of having a room; with this system you can't be sure of anything but a headache!" says Maria Satterwhite, a rising senior. Kimberly Hickson, a freshman, adds, "I

prefer the old system to the newer one because the old system had a sense of control."

Students also feel that the new system will be ineffective. "I feel it will be unfair to students in the Atlanta area, as well as returning students. I feel that once you have a room, you should be ensured one while you continue to pay your bills," says Vonzia Phillips, a rising junior. Another rising junior, Valderas Barksdale adds, "I do not understand how each person will get a fair chance for housing with so many people and so few rooms."

"They ask you what you want (dorm or roommate preference)," says Robin Anderson, rising sophomore, "but in the end, you may not get either one."

Spelman students have other grievances as well. "I think the students who commute 20 miles or farther should be considered separately from Atlanta students. At the present, they aren't, which means if I live 20 miles away and someone else lives, say, five minutes away, we have the same chances of getting a room!" says Vonzia Phillips.

As a final comment, Maria Satterwhite says, "I don't mean to knock the new housing system, but there are many loopholes in it. I understand that everything must change, but I have always believed in a change for the better, not worse."

Note: The housing selections will be determined by April; a follow-up article on the success or failure of the new system will appear then.

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Materials concerning the missing and murdered children swamp Ms. Harvard's desk daily.

because the police department and the Secret Service; GBI (Georgia Bureau of Investigation) agents; psychics from around the world, police specialists

SPECIAL ISSUE:

Problems Confronting Black Youth

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Black Youth of America Are In Trouble

Special To The Spotlight
from
The Children's Defense Fund
Washington, D.C.

According to a recent report issued by the Children's Defense Fund, **Portrait of Inequality: Black and White Children in America**, "Black children, youth and families remain worse off than whites in every area of American life." **Portrait of Inequality** describes the bleak conditions affecting the lives of millions of Black children and youth. The report, which contains the latest facts on Black and white family health, housing, education, family income, employment, foster and institutional care, child care, and crimes and arrests, demonstrates that a Black child begins his struggle even before birth for the opportunities a white child takes for granted.

Because he is Black, it is twice as likely that Archie will grow up in inadequate housing than if he had been white.

Consider the plight of one young black boy: Archie Douglas is eight years old and has already failed the first grade twice. His problem is a hearing loss which developed as a result of an ear infection he suffered when he was two years old. Archie would have been spared much of his suffering had he received basic primary health care within the year after he had his ear infection. The hearing loss could have been identified much earlier, before it seriously affected his language skills. Once his problem was identified, Archie could have gotten a hearing aid and services in school suited to his special needs. But he did not.

Archie, like millions of Black children and youth all over the country, has not and does not receive the health care he needs. Many of our young people suffer from inadequate housing, malnutrition, and unequal educational opportunity. The suffering and neglect many Black children face on very basic levels of need is shameful.

The tragic fact is that Archie's chances of growing up healthy were poor from the start. Because he is Black, it is twice as likely that his mother went without prenatal care than a white mother. Such lack of prenatal care contributes to high numbers of infant deaths, birth defects and illness.

Archie's mother was three times as likely as a white child's mother to die during childbirth, and he was twice as likely as a white child to die before his first birthday. Archie had a one in two chance of being born into poverty. Growing up, he is twice as likely as a white child to lack a regular source of health care, and is twice as likely to suffer malnutrition. Two out of every five Black five- to nine-year-olds in central cities are not immunized against polio, tetanus, diphtheria, or whooping cough. Archie may be one of the two. During his lifetime, he and other Black children may die from illness at a rate 25 percent greater than white children. Most likely, Archie's mother

returned to work when Archie was younger and worked longer hours and earned less money than a white child's mother. This meant that Archie probably needed full-day child care. But even Head Start, 42 percent of whose population is Black, serves only 25 percent of all eligible children.

Because he is Black, it is twice as likely that Archie will grow up in inadequate housing than if he had been white. Inadequate housing means a dwelling unit lacking either plumbing, a kitchen, a sewage system, heating or access to



toilets, or physical or electrical maintenance that threatens health or safety. Millions of Black children live in projects and neighborhoods where they do not feel safe.

When Archie is between the ages of 15-19, he is almost six times as likely to be murdered as a white male of the same age. Shockingly, the murder rate among nonwhite preschoolers, one- to four-years-old, is higher than the murder rate among white teenagers.

Now that Archie is in school, his chances of being labeled as educably mentally retarded is three times greater than a white child's, and he is only half as likely to be labeled academically gifted. Compared with a white child, Archie is also twice as likely to be suspended, expelled or given corporal punishment. As a result, it should be no surprise that Black children are also twice as likely as white children to drop out of school. We have one Black high school dropout for every two Black high school graduates.

Even if he graduates from school, Archie has a greater chance of being unemployed than a white grade-school dropout. A Black college graduate is unemployed at almost twice the rate of a white who never went to college. In general, Black youth are three times more likely to be unemployed than white youths. Black children see unemployment around them far more than white children

do. No wonder a Black teenager in the book says, "You don't bother going to school; it's not necessary. You just live with your mom until you get a job — that should be any time a job comes looking for you. Why should you bother to go look for it? Even your parents can't find work."

Portrait of Inequality also explains that these problems threaten middle-class Black and white communities as well as low income minority communities. It says that: "Color and history inextricably bind the fate of all Blacks. The Ku Klux Klan

businesses and terrorize other Black youths and old people as well as whites. An eroding climate for social justice and backlash against affirmative action keep poor Blacks out of entry level jobs or promotions; but they also narrow the gates to graduate and professional schools for middle-class Blacks. Budget and social program cuts hurt the poor, but they also hamstring Black mayors trying to run cities. Unemployment crushes Black families struggling to survive, but it threatens the health of Black businesses and other institutions dependent on Black purchasing power and income as well."

Yet, inspite of these hard economic times, we must redouble our efforts to help Black children, and see that children like Archie no longer have to face such awful odds. **Portrait of Inequality** paints a bleak picture but it does not wallow in despair. It calls us all to action. It proposes a tested action agenda of ways which we can combat the problems affecting Black youth. CDF insists that "The Black community particularly needs to organize now to help their young. History makes plain that without strong and persistent Black leadership, the nation will ignore the needs of Black children and families."

We can provide this leadership and make a difference in the lives of America's Black children. Our responsibility as Black Americans dictates that we organize and act now to change the present "portrait."

CDF is a national nonprofit organization headed by Marian Wright Edelman, a Spelman graduate, and has been providing a systematic and long-range voice for children for the past 10 years. The book sells for \$5.50 a copy, with discounts available for bulk orders.

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Orders under \$10.00 must be pre-paid.



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The Spelman Spotlight is produced regularly by the Spotlight Staff, composed of students from Spelman and Morehouse Colleges. Primary control, however, is vested in Spelman students. All questions and concerns from the public concerning this paper should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief, Spelman Spotlight, Box 50, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia 30314. The office phone number is 525-1743.

OUR VIEW

"Our Grounds Are Sacred"

Let's keep our grounds sacred. Many advocates of the David Duke visit and debate suggest that they want to sponsor such a debate to promote student awareness and demote student apathy. They are willing to do this at the expense of putting our college and community in jeopardy. There has to be an easier way!

If the students in the Atlanta University Center are not aware and concerned about what is going on in Atlanta, namely the missing and murdered children, and our nation, the economic package of President Reagan, then they deserve whatever the uncertainty of the future brings. If the students in our Center are not concerned, active and dedicated to improving the social and economic ills of this nation, then a debate with a white racist will not create an awareness. We can't combat apathy by putting our school and lives in jeopardy. Even if the advocates of the debate believed that such an event will heighten and intensify student interest, the Spotlight thinks that those advocates should look at the Reagan administration. If Reagan's government does not get us off of our buns then we deserve whatever happens.

There are other reasons not to hold the debate besides the fact that it will put our sacred ground in jeopardy and not terminate student apathy. Think about the publicity. To the Ku Klux Klan any publicity is good publicity. But to the black college, the same does not hold. In fact, the media enjoys attacking black colleges and their students. By debating with David Duke, we not only give money to the Klan (remember that NBSA has to pay David Duke to appear) but free publicity that could easily make them look good and us look bad. The white media is more than willing to distort any event that includes us.

Furthermore, it must be realized that the person who represents the black race in this debate, would have to have good oratorical techniques. Regardless of how insane the Klan doctrine is to us, if we have an unready person debating David Duke, then the black community at large will be disgraced, and the media will inevitably make us look worse than we ever imagined. We must understand that men like David Duke firmly believe in the idea of white race supremacy, and have developed seemingly strong arguments to support their contentions. The Klan has developed a definite ideology, if not religion, and accompanying their stance are strong words. Would our debater be better prepared than Duke? For our sake, he would have to be!

Also, think about the children. With all that is happening to black children in Atlanta at this time, and the general condition of our children nationwide, how could we even consider wasting time and give some financial support to the Klan? Yes the Klan! The State of Our Children is just so imperative to ignore. To those students espousing David Duke's visit, please prioritize. When you think about it, he just is not important to us at this critical point in our history.

There are too many reasons why we should not have David Duke on our campus. Just too many reasons to mention. Each reason is just as salient as the next. We are adults now. The actions we take are indicative of our entire race. We are the leaders of tomorrow. White America is watching us. If we proceed with caution and calculation, then we will be treated as such. But if we proceed without prior planning and thinking, then our race is in for doom. The Klan debate can have far greater ramifications than the student advocates may ever know. Look closely at the entire situation. Violence could result from such a debate. We suggest to NBSA that they abandon this project swiftly, and if they have signed a contract with David Duke, pay him and forget it.

Many famous black leaders have taught and visited our cherished school. Inside Spelman's edifices there is a great legacy of black history. Let's not mar our school with such an unnecessary debate and visitor. Take pride in these grounds. The Klan is not inviting us to debate on their sacred territory. Our grounds are just too sacred. Think about it.

MLK Vesper Hour In Honor Of The Parents Of Missing and Murdered Children

The Spotlight would like to say thank you to the Morehouse College student body and the participating faculty for holding the special Vesper Hour on March 1. The church service held in honor of the parents of the missing and murdered children was both extremely moving and extremely necessary.

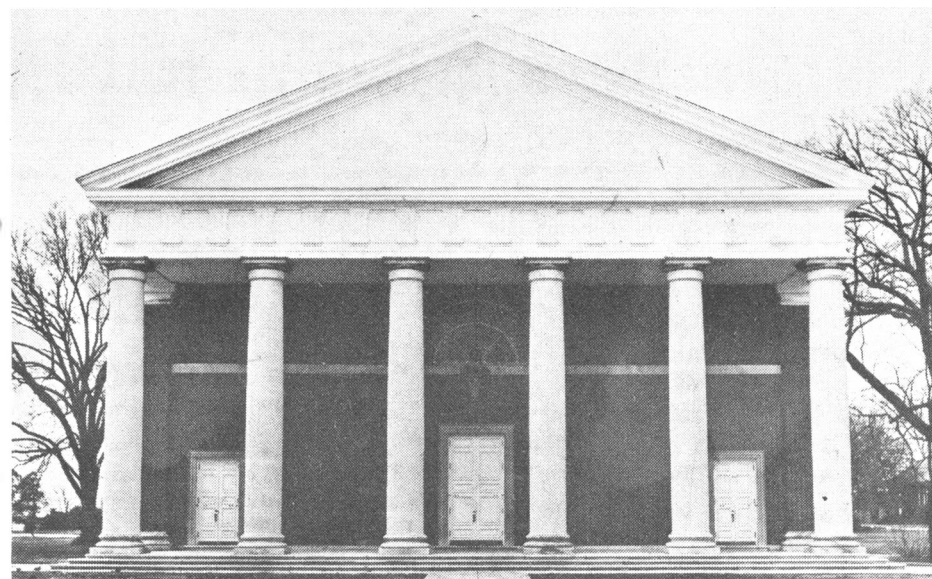
The service provided inspiration for the families, and a gathering place for those members of the AUC who wanted to let the families know that they are outraged by the brutal murders and kidnappings.

The service provided a forum for the

spiritual and inspirational leaders of the Center to express their feelings of indignation and contempt for the social evils of not only our city but our entire nation.

The service was a brave and successful attempt by the Morehouse College Chapel Assistants, the fraternities, Rev. Carter, dean of the Chapel at Morehouse, and numerous others, to speak the naked truth. In the spirit of unity, awareness and a dedication to our people, we say 'Thank You'.

Editorials in this column are written jointly by the editor-in-chief and associate editor and reflect this paper's official position. This Spotlight does welcome editorials or letters from students or faculty or any interested person. We maintain, however, the right to reject any copy.



Stealing On Campus

Many times it is necessary to put a big question mark behind the word "Sisterhood". Continuously there are reports by on-campus students that articles of theirs are being stolen. Also, there tends to be a widespread propensity by many students to place the blame for such acts on the cleaning ladies or the maintenance men. However, many dorm directors report that the ladies who make such claims later find out that it was one of their own Spelman Sisters who committed the illicit act.

This is not Sisterhood. When a student leaves her room unattended for a few

minutes, only to return and find her calculator and radio missing, we know that something is wrong. And that something is certain components of the word Sisterhood, like **trust** and **common respect**.

If we do not have these, then Sisterhood is a big farce. The Spotlight realizes that Spring is rapidly approaching, for those Spelman Sisters who for some incomprehensible reason decide to take the belongings of others, please examine why you are at Spelman, what the school stands for, and most important, examine yourselves.

Student Giving

As we approach the eve of our Centennial Celebration, let us not become so wrapped up in the trivia of the world that we fail to give the proper honor and respect to an institution that has given so much to Black womanhood. While this is a time to reflect upon the triumphs of the past, it is also time to plan for the dreams of the future and to do all we can to make those dreams come true.

Dreams never just materialize out of thin air, but require the time, energy, and financial support of dedicated and committed friends. As students we may not be in a position to do a lot, but there is something that we can do. This month let us each make sure that we make a donation to the Centennial Campaign. Let's help make the dreams of the future come alive today.

Not Enough To Eat

By Tamera Tiberlane

If ever you've found yourself sitting in the cafeteria after 8:30, possibly waiting until time for your 9:00 class, you **must** have caught a glimpse of the trays that come out after the doors have been closed to students. The juice that they "Ran out of" over an hour ago, miraculously seems to re-appear. Why, you see **hot** eggs, bacon that doesn't look as if it had been burned, sausage links that aren't stuck together, cereal you've **never** seen in OUR dining hall, even fresh fruit. If you haven't guessed by now, my concern is Alma Upshaw's output.

I remember the day (around the middle of September) I asked Mr. Hunter what happened to all the 'good' vegetables (the broccoli, cauliflower, corn on the cob, etc.) we were served last year. It seemed for a while that greens (of about 5 varieties), beans, and cabbage were going to be the 'in and only thing' for the school year. In his reply he went on to explain how broccoli was costing '**him**' seventy-two cents a pound, and how we messed over it last year. I told him that something would have to be done. He muttered something and walked off... however, the following week we did begin to see a bit of variety. This is all well and good. Now, the next bit of information passed on to me was that we receive only 3 ounces of meat per meal. This accounts

for the wafer thin slices of roast beef, miniature pieces of dried out, cold fried chicken, and "3 Little Wings," and the miniscule pork chops that look as if they've been pressed, compressed, and flattened ten times over.

Something simply must be done. Just because we are women doesn't mean that our appetites are any less than the next person's. We can't go back for seconds (not even during the last fifteen minutes of dinner) and let's face facts, if you dare ask for a larger piece of meat you put your life on the line by placing yourself at the mercy of **several** hostile cafeteria workers. Ladies, we must insist that if room and board prices are going to increase, the quality **and quantity** of our food must also increase.

Well, we won't ask for miracles girls; let's just insist on an increase in the quantity. Since our parents are footing the bills we must realize that together (if enough people open their mouths) we can have a say in what we eat. We don't have to be subjected to the Sunday afternoon cereal-filled hot dogs and meat substitute hamburger (?) patties, that don't digest well **at** all, not to mention the taste. Ladies, if we try, we **can** get more and **possibly** better food!!!

Signed,
Still Hungry After Dinner **Each** Day

Mother of Slain Son Expresses Mixed Emotions

By Bridgett M. Davis
News Editor

Mrs. Willie Mae Mathis is a middle-aged black woman who brings daily proof to the belief that black women possess an indescribable and unyielding strength that is impossible to match. For eleven tormenting months, Ms. Mathis prayed and prayed to the Lord to give her the strength that she has had to maintain throughout her ordeal. Then, on February 13, 1981 she received a call that the bodily remains of her son had been found. Jeffrey Lamar Mathis became another victim on the steadily increasing list of murdered children in Atlanta.

It's an empty feeling," said Ms. Mathis. "Having a child for ten years . . . he walks out of the door one day . . . and you never see him again for eleven months . . ." she said, ending abruptly. "I prayed and prayed, hoping Jeffrey was still alive." It was a big relief when his body was found to at least know where he was, yet - as anyone must realize - "it hurt."

Included in all of the emotions Mrs. Mathis must have felt was anger toward



Mrs. Camille Bell, mother of the late Usef Bell, Jean Blake, WAGA reporter and a mother of one of the missing children were guests on the Phil Donohue Show.

anyone who would harm innocent children. "These children were cute, bright and talented kids. Who knows? One of them could have had the cure for cancer or could have been the next president." Yet, despite her grief, Ms. Mathis also feels everything happens for a reason and in an unfortunate sense, something good has come out of it. People have become more neighborly and brotherly as a result of this crisis. Ms. Mathis realizes that, as usual, it has taken "tragedy to bring people together."

Sharing the feelings of so many others,

Ms. Mathis questions the competency of the Atl. Police Dept. "Why can't they do something about it?" she asks in earnest. She acknowledges that the police are doing everything within their power and are working around the clock. Yet, she strongly feels that: "If they'd started this investigation sooner (and) if they'd asked the GBI and the FBI to come in sooner, this would have been halted a long time ago. It would have saved lives."

Commissioner Lee P. Brown did not acknowledge a pattern sooner because he didn't want to alarm the public. Not until after the Bowen Homes incident (where several children and one adult were killed by an explosion caused by a faulty furnace system) and after the eighth murder did they acknowledge a pattern. Ms. Mathis expresses complete disapproval of such actions. "It wasn't his choice . . . (Commissioner Brown's) the people should have known . . . Lee Brown said there was no pattern, so everybody stopped talking about it."

The apathy on the part of Atlantans deeply disturbs Ms. Mathis. "They say Atlanta is a city too busy to hate, but what does it take for them to care?" She believes that most Atlantans are indifferent until it "hits home." They don't care in Atlanta. Nothing seems to get next to them."

If the Atlantans have appeared indifferent, the press has been totally unfeeling toward Ms. Mathis. On the day Jeffrey's body was found, she had to leave out of her back door and over a

neighbor's fence to avoid the reporters, who were everywhere - even hiding in the bushes. During her son's funeral, she was again harassed by the crowds and crowds of media persons. "The media doesn't care about your feelings," she said. "I wouldn't talk to anybody before he was found." Now, she adds, her phone hasn't stopped ringing.

Ms. Mathis has her own theories on who could be the cause of this nightmare. She believes it is more than one person. And, she doesn't believe a black man or woman is responsible because black people have too much respect for their mothers and their children. "A black man will kill you for messing with his mother or his kids," she said. Believing that Jeffrey would never have trusted a stranger, she feels it must be someone that has gained the children's trust. Most puzzling to her is what this person or persons does with the children before they kill them, since it has been proven that some of the children had been dead for considerably less time than they had been missing.

The real ordeal that Mrs. Mathis and twenty other mothers have undergone is beyond full comprehension for those of us who have not been personally victimized by it. "No one else can relate if your child is missing or dead except someone else it has happened to," she said. Nevertheless, we empathize with Mrs. Mathis, and we share her sentiments fully that, "with a lot of prayers, the Lord will surely reveal these people."

SCLC To Hold Conference On Black Child Agenda

A two-day conference to address "The Black Child Agenda" has been planned for April 3rd and 4th by SCLC/WOMEN, (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), as part of its second national conference on the "Survival of the Black Family in the Eighties." The first conference was held last May and addressed male-female relations.

Mrs. Evelyn G. Lowery, founder and national convener of SCLC/WOMEN, said the Second Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Drum Major Awards Dinner will be held after the close of the conference on April 4, the 13th anniversary of Dr. King's death.

Among the honored guests will be ABC News Anchorman Max Robinson and U.S. Congressman Ron Dellums.

"The dinner will honor the life of our founding president, and will provide opportunity for the presentation of the 1981 Drum Major Awards to persons who have made outstanding contributions to the fulfillment of the 'dream,'" Mrs. Lowery said, as well as raise funds to continue the work of fulfilling the 'dream.'

Awards will be presented in government, education, human rights, the arts, law and justice, sports, business and communications. Special awards will be given to individuals outside these professions whose contributions also merit public recognition.

Comedian Bill Cosby, Congressman Wyche Fowler and Mrs. Rosa Parks, the Mother of the civil rights movement, are honorary co-chairpersons.

Numerous professionals in the health care field and in education and religion, (among others), will lead workshops and panel discussions for the Black Child conference.

Doctors Ann and Alvin Poussaint will keynote the conference with major

addresses and workshop participation.

Workshops will address "Improving Educational Opportunities," "Protecting Health and Welfare" and "Developing Positive Self Concepts."

Topics for discussion include "Building Quality Schools in Low Income Neighborhoods," "The Impact of Integration," "Child Abuse - Everybody's Problem," "Positive Self Images in a Materialistic Society" and "Effective Parenting."

Child Psychiatrist Dr. Quentin Smith, Dr. Barbara Whitaker of the Atlanta Board of Education and Rev. McKinley Young, pastor of Atlanta's Big Bethel AME Church are just a few of the workshop leaders who will be available to conference participants.

Atlanta Police Chief George Napper, Mrs. Camille Bell and Mrs. Willie Mae Mathis of the Committee To Stop Children's Murders, Rev. Arthur Langford, Atlanta city councilman and president of the United Youth Adult Conference (the organization coordinating the weekend searches), and Dr. Quentin Smith will comprise a panel discussing "Crime Against Atlanta's Children - What Can the Community Do?"

Mrs. Jean Young is honorary chairperson of the conference and as chairperson also of the International Year of the Child, she will report on the past year's involvements.

Registration for the conference is \$5 and the conference site is the Atlanta Hilton Hotel. The Drum Major Awards Dinner on April 4 is at 7 p.m. in the Hilton. Tickets are \$50 and may be obtained by writing P.O. Box 42257, Atlanta, GA 30311. Please send for your tickets early. For more information about the dinner or conference call (404) 344-3970 or 522-1420.

Spelman Education Instructor Heads Special Mental Health Task Force

By Bridgett M. Editor
News Editor

Dr. Sandra Sims, an instructor of Education at Spelman College, has been selected as the chairperson of the Special Mental Health Task Force (MHTF), which was implemented to address the immediate and long term effects of the "missing and murdered" children phenomenon.

Due to the impact of the children's crisis, the emotional health of black children and their families has been affected. "The living and learning environment of children at home, school, and on playgrounds may not be psychologically safe. Parents and teachers are reportedly having difficulty handling the increased levels of stress and anxiety exhibited by children as a result of this crisis," according to Public Safety commissioner, Lee P. Brown.

The Task Force's mission is to identify and mobilize community resources which could aid the concerns of those affected by the problem. These resources would be: Parent Block Organizations; YMCA & YWCA affiliations; Boy's Clubs; churches; and other community groups. The MHTF encourages these groups to be more responsive to those children affected psychologically by the crisis, and to offer their services wherever needed within the communities. By pooling their services together, these groups can become strong community support systems.

The MHTF believes that only in severe cases should children with difficulties be sent to mental health centers. It would be the responsibility of the community support services to define what is typical, normal reactions within the children.

As chairperson of the MHTF, Dr. Sims feels their main objective is to foster a sense of community within the children. "The crisis has made us aware that we don't have a great emphasis on community. People often do not know their neighbors . . . Children need to know that there is someone within their community that they can trust," said Dr. Sims.

On February 14, 1981, a planning conference sponsored by the Dept. of Public Safety and the Mental Health Task Force, was held at Atlanta University to initiate the process of the task force. The theme of the conference was, "I Am My Brother's Keeper."

Future plans for the MHTF include more parent workshops and workshops with children to strengthen communications and to minimize stress within the black family. It also intends to provide more after-school care and supervision of children. Most importantly, they will continue to identify and coordinate community resources and services, as Dr. Sims states: "We have a responsibility to carry through, and continue to be an advocacy to children and families."

Dr. Stewart Addresses Klan Issue

A recent attempt by NBSA sympathizers to have the Kleeblor-Duke debate take place at Spelman College has ended in failure.

In a February 26 memorandum to the Spelman College Community, President Donald Stewart stated that "on the advice of legal counsel and the Police" the Spelman College administration "cannot condone this person (David Duke) coming onto the campus and will not grant permission for him to do so."

The move to have David Duke speak at Spelman was initiated at a convocation held on Thursday, February 19 to discuss academic concerns at the college. At that time a student asked President Stewart, after referring to the concept of academic freedom, if a controversial person could speak at Spelman given that at least 100 students desired to have him speak. According to student reports, Stewart gave his consent without knowing what speaker the student was referring to.

In his memorandum, Stewart stated,

"While embracing the right of free speech totally, I have asked these students to consider the feelings and well-being of others in this matter. I have asked them to think of Spelman's well-being at this critical time in its history and the possible consequences of such an act. Reason seems not to work."

Stewart further stated that "they (NBSA) do not have the right to endanger the lives of others or the well-being of this institution. An historically black college entertaining someone like this defies understanding."

"At this place, at this time," he stated, "the Klan would love to see an explosion at Spelman. Given the tension in our city because of the deaths of our children and the economic problems in the country, one fight, one shot would do it."

Stewart ended by saying that "this cannot take place on our campus. Care enough about Spelman not to want it to take place."

Julian Bond Upset Over Duke Invitation

President Donald Stewart will not be the only one to go down in history this year for writing scathing memorandums. In a February 25 memorandum to the Atlanta University Center (AUC) President and the AUC Student Government Presidents, State Senator Julian Bond stated that he is "appalled to discover that some students at a Center school have extended an invitation to Ku

Klux Klansman David Duke to speak."

"Through this invitation," he said, "Atlanta University Center students give sanction to the Klan's philosophy and subsidy to its evil work."

Bond said, "This invitation to David Duke is an invitation to dance on the graves of the anonymous thousands sent to death by the hooded hooligans of the Ku Klux Klan."

The Klan

For Those Who Don't Know

* The Klan is an organization dedicated to the notion of white supremacy.

* The basic thesis of the Klan is that from a genetic and biblical standpoint, Blacks and Jews are inferior.

For those members of the **Spotlight** readership who don't know, the Ku Klux Klan is alive and active.

A recent publication by **The Tennessean** who devoted entirely to the Klan, their activities and doctrine. The publication demonstrated the fact that the Klan is an organ — ignition committed to terrorism and racism. And in addition, the many articles written by investigative reporter Jerry Thompson suggested that many factions of the American population are growing more sympathetic to the Klan and their activities. Thompson writes, "... There is surprising latent sympathy for the Klan movement among many 'respectable' citizens who shun KKK memberships. In numbers, Klan members are small when compared to the thousands and thousands who belonged to what amounted to a Southern guerilla army in the 1960s. But many people, who decline to sign an application black, still feel supportive of the white supremacy and anti Semitic rhetoric of Klan leaders."

It is such support that can not be taken lightly, according to Thompson and other

writers on Klan activities. The Klan is increasingly gaining the support of White Americans who have never supported a hate group before.

Many ask, "Why the increase in Klan support?", and "Why from 'respectable'

members of our society?" An editorial in the special edition of **The Tennessean** answered these question, "and people are listening to them (the Klan) even decent people. They are listening to them because they feel frustrated about their jobs, about their lives, about their country. They are listening to them because Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Black (leaders of the Klan) travel around the country and take advantage of local tensions and confrontations. The numbers may be few but the danger they pose is great."

The Tennessean, black leaders and

Continued on page 6

National Black Student Association Invites Klan Member To Speak

By Gregory Clinton Jr. Reporter

David Duke, ex-imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and current president of the National Association for the Advancement of White People, has been invited by the National Black Student Association (NBSA) to participate in a debate expected to take place toward the end of March.

NBSA is a chartered organization of Clark College that is headed by two Morehouse students, Clinton Lacey and a young man called Kokie. According to NBSA, "The students in the Atlanta University Center are asleep — unaware of the oppressed state black Americans constitute." Duke is questionably ranked as one of the top ten most sought-after speakers by American colleges and universities and is expected to be paid \$800.00 by NBSA.

Clinton Lacey describes Duke, 30, as a

young articulate man. Lacey continued by saying, "Duke is a graduate of the University of Louisiana, who speaks the truth in reference to the race issue. Duke favors the systematic elimination of blacks in American through open competition — opposed to violence."

Columbus Keeper, a graduate of Miles College, where he majored in Education, Religion and Philosophy, is expected to debate David Duke. Keeper is also a 1974 graduate of the University of Illinois, where he received a Juris Doctorate Degree. NBSA has much confidence in Keeper and feels he will reign victorious over Duke.

The underlined purpose of this debate is to "arouse the consciousness level of blacks in the AUC and community." It is believed by the NBSA that "nothing else would do this."

JULIAN BOND
District 39
361 Westview Drive, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30310



The State Senate

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

February 25, 1981

MEMORANDUM

TO: Atlanta University Center President,
Student Government Association Presidents

FROM: Julian Bond, State Senator

RE: DAVID DUKE INVITATION

I am appalled to discover that some students at a Center school have extended an invitation to Klux Klux Klansman, David Duke, to speak.

Duke is associated with a 116-year-old terrorist organization dedicated to the subjugation of Black people.

Klan members take an oath of racial loyalty.

These hoodlums have been responsible for the documented murders of more than 5,000 Black people, for the mutilation of hundreds of others, and for the orchestration of a century long campaign of racial terror, religious bigotry, and militant, violent opposition to the most elemental human rights.

Through this invitation, Atlanta University Center students give sanction to the Klan's philosophy and subsidy to its evil work.

It is beyond my comprehension that educated Black people would voluntarily donate their funds to an individual and organization dedicated to their destruction.

Would students at Brandeis University invite Adolph Hitler to address them?

Would students at Carlyle invite General Custer?

Would students at Notre Dame invite Ian Paisley?

It was Klansmen who dynamited the 16th Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham in 1963, murdering 4 Black children.

Klansmen killed Lemuel Penn in Athens, Georgia; Mickey Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Cheyney in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Klansmen kidnapped Judge Aaron in Montgomery, Alabama, castrated him with razor blades, poured kerosene in his wounds, and dumped him in a drainage ditch.

Neither space or time permit a listing of Klan atrocities ranging from 1865 until 1981.

This invitation to David Duke is an invitation to dance on the graves of the anonymous thousands sent to death by the hooded hooligans of the Ku Klux Klan.

Sincerely,

Julian Bond

The Klan

Continued from page 5

responsible and informed members of the black community stress black awareness of Klan activities and Klan support. The activities and doctrine of the Klan, according to many is just too severe for us to ignore. The Klan not only advocates white supremacy, but is preparing itself for black and white confrontation. Thompson says, "At its very worst, I formed elements of the Klan to be dangerous, armed to the teeth and literally preparing for a race war. In my view, those Klansmen, largely identified with the Indivisible Empire of the KKK, ... are inviting and promoting the very race conflict they are predicting."

The Klan is preparing itself for an all out race war. In fact, racial confrontation is increasing markedly. The National

Education Association's Special Committee on Student Behavior Reflecting Racial and Ethnic Prejudice compiled a fact sheet which indicated the nature of Klan activities in most of the 50 states. The activities mentioned ranged from killing black men to anti Semitic and black demonstrations.

The Klan is gaining support and sympathy from important segments of white America. Some contend that the state of our nation is to blame: failing economy and deprivation. Many people do not know where to turn. The Klan openly embraces them. But for whatever reason, the Klan exists, and for those of you who don't know, the Klan intends to continue their acts of hatred and preparation for a racial confrontation.



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let's all go to the



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National Black Youth Network At Spelman

By Lisa Boykin

On January 10, 1981, at 10:00 in the morning, the Southern Region of the National Black Youth Network, a branch of the Congressional Black Caucus, met for the first time in Howe Hall on Spelman College's Campus. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce students to the Network, define the goals of the Network, and to organize a structure for the Network's operation in the Southern region.

The National Black Youth Network is one of the programs created as a result of a decision made by black leaders throughout the nation who convened in February, 1980, in Richmond, Virginia, in order to discuss the problems of Black Americans and in order to create programs which could help to alleviate those problems. The Network is fundamental in helping to alleviate those problems in that its major purpose is to act as a "task" force to target in on problems which affect Black youth.

The Network is comprised of Black youth between the ages of 14-35, who are interested in the political policies which affect them. Currently, the Network is in the process of building up its membership so that when attacking key issues which pertain to Black youth, there will be enough support in number and in

manpower to forcefully attack those issues.

As of now, the Network of the Atlanta District has been organized on the campuses of the Atlanta University Center. Each college has a campus coordinator who is in charge of Network growth and in charge of promotion of information concerning the Network. The elected Spelman College coordinator is Lisa Boykin, a sophomore, Biochemistry major. David Dent, a senior at Morehouse, is the Morehouse coordinator, and Alan Bolden, a freshman at Morehouse, is the assistant coordinator. Cheryl Delco was elected Clark College coordinator. The ITC chapter is being coordinated by Donald Walker. Morris Brown has as its coordinator, Spencer Booker. And Yolysly Chaghanha is the coordinator of Atlanta University's chapter. The campus coordinators, the state coordinator, who is Priscilla Oliver, the district coordinator, Jimmie Hicks, and other members of the Network are currently working on the organization of the National Black Youth Network Georgia State Conference, which is to be held on April 4, 1981. If interested in becoming active with the Network, there are Network Membership cards available in Spelman's SGA office.

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Police Work Around The Clock

Continued from page 1

groups. As a means of aiding the efforts of the Atlanta Police Department there has been a reward fund established — which is receiving continuous donations, volunteer weekly searches, and non-stop meetings, briefings, interviews, questionings, and surveillances.

Ms. Beverly Harvard is an assistant to Public Safety Commissioner Lee P. Brown. Her desk is continuously swamped every day with new materials concerning the cases of the missing and murdered children. Not unlike most of the people working closely with the cases, she is overworked. There is not enough manpower to handle the immensity of the problem. "We are in the process of developing a program whereby we can utilize persons willing to help," said Ms. Harvard. "We get people calling us up all of the time asking what they can do to help," she stated. Yet, Ms. Harvard points out that there is only so much that

the Police Dept. can allow civilians to assist with, due to the fact that there is no suspect and therefore no one free from suspicion. "We have to scrutinize everyone," she said.

Ms. Harvard expresses deep concern that the public realize the complexity of the cases and the around-the-clock effort on the parts of the people within the Dept. of Public Safety. Every day at five o'clock we meet to make sure we are doing everything that is humanly possible," she said. "We are in the process of brainstorming everyday."

As an addition to the problems already faced by the Dept. of Public Safety, they receive an average of four to five missing reports everyday. Having to discern as to what is important, the department must still send someone out to take a report on each individual call. Much needed manpower is taken up within this process alone, since many reports are from anxious parents who panic if their

children are even a few minutes late getting home.

There is still a problem with children being out alone, according to Ms. Harvard. "You can't just say it's a lack of concern on the part of the parents. . . It's for some reason" (that the children are out), she added. Many lower income families have a single parent who must work at night and who cannot afford to stay home and supervise their children. Also, the only money that many children have is that which they make by doing odd jobs within the community. "Kids trying to make a buck are not going to

stop. They have to survive," stated Ms. Harvard. The curfew requires, again, more manpower. Therefore, it is difficult to enforce.

Despite the complexity of the cases, and the lack of evidence, Ms. Harvard shares the optimism of the Task Force Members, who believe they **will** catch the murder(s). "It's not a matter of 'if,' it's a matter of 'when,'" says Ms. Harvard. Until that much hoped for day, the entire Atlanta Police Department and its subdivisions would like for the communities, cities, states, and entire world to know that: "Everything humanly possible is being done."



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STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST as part of the 1981 Human Service Summit Conference

Topic: "The Future of Human Services and Minority Communities"

Eligibility: The contest is open to all students enrolled full-time in social work programs at any post secondary institution in the state of Georgia.

Rules: Entries should be no more than 10 pages, typed and double-spaced, and may be on any aspect of the official topic. To be considered, essay must be received by 5 March 1981. All entries become the property of The Atlanta University School of Social Work.

Winners: A winner may be selected from each participating institution. Winners will be notified by 5 April 1981.

A monetary prize as well as a plaque will be awarded each winner during the Summit Conference. Additionally, winning contestants will have an opportunity to share highlights of their essays at the Conference Banquet on Friday, 17 April 1981.

For Additional Information

Jualynne Dodson
School of Social Work
The Atlanta University
223 Chestnut Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314

The Atlanta University School of Social Work's Second Annual Human Service Summit Conference will be held April 16-18, 1981 on the university campus and at Paschal's Motor Hotel. The conference theme is "Poor and Minority Families: A Continuing Challenge to Human Services." The purpose of the Summit Conference is to facilitate dialogue and collaborative activity among human service educators, consumers, advocates, providers, and legislators.

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